United Nations S/2012/634

Security Council

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15 August 2012

Original: English

Letter dated 14 August 2012 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I would like to draw your attention that on 4 August 2012 a group of Iranian pilgrims were kidnapped on their way to the Damascus Airport by armed men belonging to the so-called "Free Syrian Army". The captors claimed that of the 48 Iranian pilgrims abducted, three were killed.

The timing of this unfortunate occurrence is similar to that of previous cases in which a number of Iranian pilgrims and civil servants were kidnapped. As a result of international efforts, some of the captives were released. However, some Iranian engineers and pilgrims are still being held by their kidnappers.

The Islamic Republic of Iran lodges its strong condemnation of such inhumane and criminal acts of indiscriminate killing and abduction of innocent people and holds the hostage-takers responsible for any loss of lives or injury that may occur to the hostages.

I would like to convey the deep concern of my Government, as well as the families of the pilgrims, over the security and safety of these hostages. Since using the hostages as human shields violates international law and the human rights of these innocent civilians, it is expected that the Security Council will condemn, in the strongest terms, the inhumane act of hostage-taking and take urgent and effective steps towards securing their release.

I would appreciate it if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Eshagh **Al Habib**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

12-46407 (E) 160812

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Security Council

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 14 August 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a complaint about Israeli enemy forces, which on 16 July 2012 undertook engineering work on the Blue Line (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as an official document of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 36, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

12-46890 (E) 220812 230812

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Annex to the identical letters dated 14 August 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On 16 July 2012, at approximately 0400 hours, the Israeli enemy undertook engineering work on the Blue Line in the vicinity of Mazra'at Fashkul, at coordinates Q:747865-N:684739. A United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon patrol was close to the place in which the hostile work was being undertaken. The Israeli enemy finished work at 0535 hours, and it later became clear that they had dug a trench and erected an earthen berm at coordinates Q:747617-N:684836, and removed a blue-painted stone that had indicated the position of the Blue Line.

Such conduct indicates the following:

The aim of the engineering work undertaken by the Israeli enemy was to block the paved road that leads to the Lebanese side of the Blue Line by means of the trench and the earthen berm (10m x 10m x 5m).

All the engineering work undertaken by the Israeli enemy is 23 metres beyond the Blue Line, on the Lebanese side, and therefore a violation of the Line.

The area in which the hostile work was undertaken was in the vicinity of Mazra'at Fashkul, in the occupied Shab'a Farms. In 2000, Lebanon expressed an objection with regard to the Blue Line in that area.

This breach constitutes a flagrant violation of Lebanese sovereignty, international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and poses a threat to international peace and security.

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Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 7 August 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations stating that Ms. Grace Pringle has been appointed alternate representative of the United Kingdom on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, this letter constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

12-46421 (E) 170812

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